

REMARKS

Claims 19-34 and 37-59 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 33, 52 and 58 are amended, and claims 35 and 36 are canceled. No new matter is added.

Allowed and allowable claims

Applicant appreciates the Office Action's indication that claims 19-32, 46-51 and 54-57 are allowed and that claims 36, 39, 43 and 45 are allowable.

The claims are patentable over the allowed references

The Office Action (1) rejects claims 33, 37-38, 40-42, 44, 52-53 and 58-59 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over European Patent Publication No. 2002-118043 to Shibuya in view of U.S. Patent Publication No. 2002/0126390 to Matsushita et al. ("Matsushita"); (2) rejects claims 33, 37-38, 40-42, 44, 52-53 and 58-59 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Shibuya in view of Japanese Patent Publication No. 2000-98102 to Shimizu et al. ("Shimizu"); and (3) rejects claims 34-35 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Shibuya in view of Matsushita, and further in view of Japanese Patent Publication No. 07-098402 to Yamaguchi et al. ("Yamaguchi"). Applicant respectfully traverses the rejections.

By this Amendment, independent claims 33, 52 and 58 are amended to include the features of allowable claim 36, rendering the rejections moot. Applicant requests withdrawal of the rejections.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 19-34 and 37-59 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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Attachment:
Petition for Extension of Time

Date: December 7, 2007

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